



CARIBE WAVE 2011/ LANTEX 11

Emergency Alert System Demonstration

EAS Demonstration Fact Sheet

- On March 23, 2011, the NOAA's National Weather Service and West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center will conduct its annual national Tsunami Exercise, including for the Caribbean Region. The purpose of this exercise is to improve the Tsunami Warning System effectiveness.
- As part of the exercise, VITEMA in coordination with the Office of the Governor and FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System program, is partnering with the local radio and television broadcasters and Innovative Cable to conduct a demonstration of the Territory's Emergency Alert System.
- During the March 23, exercise, the West Coast/Alaska Tsunami Warning Center will issue a tsunami warning message using the Tsunami Live Code. At approximately 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, March 23, the tsunami warning test message will air for approximately two minutes on television, on most radio stations and across NOAA radios.
- Many television systems are programmed to scroll standard emergency alert message text and in some cases, the message may not contain the word "TEST." An audio message will indicate that the warning is a test, but if the volume is turned down or otherwise unheard, viewers may not realize the warning is a demonstration of the current system.
- To avoid confusion in the event of an actual tsunami warning, the demonstration may be canceled if there is excessive seismic activity 24 hours prior to the test.
- VITEMA and the Office of the Governor will provide citizens with the necessary information in advance of the demonstration. Public service announcements featuring a message from the Governor John P. De Jongh, Jr. will air March 14th and recur until March 23rd. The information will also be tailored for the non-English speaking communities.